

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action of October 20, 2006. In that Office Action, claims 1-7 and 10-17 were rejected, while claims 8, 9 and 18 were objected to. Claims 19-23 were withdrawn from consideration due to Applicant's election of April 25, 2006.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 and 10-17 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Stark U.S. Patent 6,026,617 in view of Hannan et al. U.S. Patent 6,883,276.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 is cancelled. Independent claim 2 is amended to set forth a double-hung window having an open position and a closed position, wherein the double-hung window comprises a first side jamb and a second side jamb. Each side jamb comprises an upper side jamb, a lower side jamb, an interior extension slot, an exterior extension slot and a lock pin slot. The double-hung window further comprises a head jamb, an upper sash held in the window by the first and second upper side jambs and head jamb when the window is in the closed position, and a lower sash having a lock pin extendable from each side of the lower sash into the lock pin slot of its respective side jamb. The lower sash is held in the window by the first and second lower side jambs when the window is in the closed position. The double-hung window further comprises a concealed jamb liner cover for selective engagement with each upper side jamb, with each jamb liner cover extending over the interior extension slot and lock pin slot at its respective upper side jamb. Each jamb liner cover has an exposed wood surface and has a channel for receiving the lock pin of the lower sash, allowing slidable movement of the lower sash.

In the Office Action, it is correctly noted that while the Stark patent does disclose a double-hung window assembly, it fails to disclose a jamb liner cover. The Hannan et al. patent is cited as disclosing "a window assembly having jamb liner covers (66) formed of wood veneer." As seen in FIG. 4 of the Hannan et al. patent, a jamb liner 30 has a pair of elongated channel guides, namely an interior channel guide 32 and an exterior channel guide 34. A third central channel (unnumbered in the Hannan et al. patent) extends between channel guides 32 and 34, which are spaced apart by an integral wall member 54 (this third central channel is essentially

defined by wall sections 36 and 38 and wall member 54 – see FIGS. 2-6 of the Hannan et al. patent). A “decorative jamb liner cover” 60 (FIG. 3) or 66 (FIG. 4) extends over the space between the wall sections 38 and 36 of the channel guides 32 and 34. However, the cover (60 or 66) does not extend across either of the channel guides, but only serves to cover the interior channel formed between the channel guides 32 and 34 (the cover only covers the “third central channel” mentioned above).

In amended independent claim 2, Applicants have presented a double-hung window which includes a concealed jamb liner cover that extends over both the interior extension slot and lock pin slot relative its respective side jamb. In addition, Applicant’s concealed jamb liner cover has a channel for receiving the lock pin of the lower sash, allowing slidable movement of the lower sash (see, e.g., channel 150 on jamb liner cover 140 of Applicants’ disclosure – FIGS. 3, 4, 5 and 6). Such an arrangement is not taught by Hannan et al. patent. Indeed, to the extent that the interior channel guide 32 in the Hannan et al. patent has a cover (e.g., first channel guide cover 49 – FIG. 4), that cover is separate from the “decorative jamb liner cover” 66 (FIG. 4) disclosed in the Hannan et al. patent. Applicants have developed a double-hung window which has a concealed jamb liner cover which serves to cover both the lock pin slot and the interior extension slot. Nothing of this sort is disclosed in the cited prior art. Likewise, there is no suggestion in the Hannan et al. patent that two entirely separate “cover” elements (cover 49 and cover 66) be combined as one jamb liner cover that covers two slots, such as set forth in independent claim 2, nor that a jamb liner cover include a channel for receiving the lock pin of the lower sash, allowing slidable movement of the lower sash. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the double-hung window of claim 2 is not obvious in view of the cited prior art. Favorable consideration of claim 2 as amended herein is thus respectfully requested. Claims 3-12 depend from independent claim 2, and since claim 2 is in allowable form, it is believed that claims 3-12 should be allowed as well, and such favorable consideration is requested.

Independent claim 13 also presents a double-hung window. In this claim, the double-hung window comprises, among other things, a concealed jamb liner cover for selective

engagement with each upper side jamb, with each jamb liner cover having an exposed wood surface and having a channel for receiving the lock pin of the lower sash, to allow slidable movement of the lower sash. As noted in the Office Action, the Stark patent does not disclose a jamb liner cover. The jamb liner covers 60 and 66 shown in the Hannan et al. patent do not have a channel for receiving the lock pin of the lower sash to allow slidable movement of the lower sash, as set forth in independent claim 13. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of independent claim 13 in view of the noted deficiencies in the disclosure of the Stark and Hannan et al. patent. Favorable consideration of independent claim 13 and dependent claims 14-18 (which depend therefrom) are respectfully requested.

With this Amendment, the specification is amended on page 16 to provide the serial number of a referenced co-pending application.

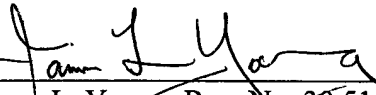
With this Amendment, claims 19-23 are cancelled and new claims 24-26 are presented. No new matter is presented herein. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of new claims 24, 25, and 26.

Applicant acknowledges the patentability of the features of claims 8, 9 and 18 in the Office Action of October 20, 2006. However, in view of the revisions to claim 2 and comments with respect to claims 2 and 13 presented herein, no revisions to claims 8, 9 and 18 are believed necessary for patentability at this time. At this time, claims 2-18 and 24-26 are presented for examination, and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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